Microsoft® Windows® 2000

Market Bulletin

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Active Directory™ Client Extensions for Windows 95, 98 and Windows NT® 4.0

Microsoft has developed extensions for Windows 95, 98 and Windows NT 4 that enable those client platforms to take advantage of features provided by the Windows 2000 Active Directory. These client extensions were developed for customers that wish to deploy Windows 2000 Server in environments with Windows 95, 98 and Windows NT 4–based client workstations.

WHAT WORKS

Windows 9x and Windows NT 4–based clients alone, lack many of the features of Windows 2000 Professional related to the Active Directory service. The Active Directory client extension is an upgrade/patch for Windows 95, 98 and Windows NT 4 to enable the following Active Directory features.

Site Awareness

- Capability to logon to a Domain Controller "closest" to the client
- Ability to change password on any Windows 2000 Domain Controller instead of the PDC.

Active Directory Services Interface (ADSI)

- Allows scripting to Active Directory.
- Provides a common programming API to Active Directory programmers.

DFS Fault Tolerance Client

- Provides access to Windows 2000 distributed file system fault tolerant/fail-over file shares specified in the Active Directory.

Active Directory Windows Address Book (WAB) property pages

- Allows the user to change properties on their user object (e.g. phone#, address) that they have the permission to change via the user object pages accessible from Start|Search|For People menu.
- Support for display specifiers that allow rendering of new schema elements stored on the user object stored in Active Directory.

NTLMV2 Authentication

- Takes advantage of the improved authentication features available in NTLMv2.

WHAT DOESN'T WORK

Significant architectural advancements have been made in the Windows 2000 Professional client platform that deliver functionality that the Active Directory client extensions on Windows 9x and Windows NT 4 cannot deliver. These additional capabilities can be achieved by upgrading to Windows 2000 Professional.

No Kerberos Support

- The Active Directory client extension does not deliver Kerberos support to Windows 9x and Windows NT 4–based clients.

No Group Policy/Intellimirror Support

- The Active Directory client extension does not deliver Intellimirror or Windows 2000 Group Policy functionality.

No IPSEC/L2TP Support

- The Active Directory client extension does not deliver advanced VPN protocols.

No Service Principal Name (SPN)/Mutual Authentication

- The Active Directory client extension does not deliver SPN/Mutual authentication.

PLANNED RELEASE VEHICLES

- Windows 95 and 98–based Active Directory Client will be distributed on the Windows 2000 CD
- Windows NT 4.0–based Active Directory Client will be distributed on the Windows NT 4 SP7 CD

MORE INFORMATION

Visit http://www.microsoft.com/windows2000/default.asp for more information on Windows 2000 and the Active Directory service.

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